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Message Text

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ORIGIN AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03
LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15
STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01
DOE-11 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 /157 R

DRAFTED BY FAS:BHARPER:GD
APPROVED BY STR:JSTARKEY
STR:SSCHWAB
ITC:JBOYD
COM:LHOLEC
LABOR:DWANAMAKER
STATE:HKOPP
INTERIOR:HANDERSON
TREAS:EBARBER
----------000487 070311Z /63
P 070153Z MAR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR

SUBJECT: AMENDMENTS TO AND CLARIFICATION OF U.S. MTN RE-
QUESTS ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS: AUSTRALIA

REF: (A) GENEVA 9638; (B) CANBERRA 8671; (C) STATE 10800

1. AMENDMENTS: THERE IS ONE ADDITIONAL TARIFF REQUEST
UNDER GROUP AGRICULTURE PROCEDURES TO BE MADE OF AUSTRALIA.
IT IS: EX2007290, CITRUS FRUIT JUICES, NES, OTHER: EX
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GRAPEFRUIT AND LEMON, REDUCE DUTY FROM $0.041 PER LITER TO
$0.016 PER LITER.

2. EXPLANATION: THE INDUSTRY AS REPRESENTED ON THE ATAC
NOW BELIEVES THAT THE POTENTIAL FOR INCREASED EXPORTS OF
THESE JUICES TO AUSTRALIA IS GREATER THAN THEY HAD ORIGI-
NALLY THOUGHT. THE UNITED STATES IS THE LEADING SUPPLIER

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OF GRAPEFRUIT JUICE TO AUSTRALIA. ALTHOUGH IT IS NOT THE LEADING SUPPLIER OF LEMON JUICE, THE INDUSTRY BELIEVES THAT IT WOULD BENEFIT FROM A TARIFF CONCESSION AND HEAVY U.S. CROPS IN RECENT YEARS ACCENT THE NEED FOR INCREASED EXPORT OUTLETS.

3. CLARIFICATION: IN RESPONSE TO REF A, OUR OBJECTIVE

CONCERNING THE TOBACCO ITEMS (2401110, 2401210 AND 2401220) IS TO REDUCE THE 57 MIXING RATE DOWN TO 35 AND BIND IT AT THAT LEVEL. ACCORDING TO REF B, THE AUSTRALIAN TOBACCO BOARD HELD ITS FIRST OFFICIAL NEGOTIATING SESSION BETWEEN AUSTRALIAN GROWERS AND MANUFACTURERS IN DECEMBER 1977 TO DEVELOP ACCEPTABLE STABILIZATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NEXT FIVE-YEAR TOBACCO STABILIZATION PLAN WHICH WILL TAKE EFFECT ON JANUARY 1, 1979. UNDER THE PLAN MANUFACTURERS ARE REQUIRED TO ABSORB A NATIONAL QUOTA OF AUSTRALIAN LEAF. THE GROWERS WANT THE PRESENT QUOTA OF 15.4 MILLION KILOGRAMS (APPROXIMATELY 15,000 TONS) MAINTAINED DURING THE LIFE OF THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN, REGARDLESS OF CHANGES IN CONSUMPTION, WHILE THE MANUFACTURERS ARE INSISTING ON THE INTRODUCTION OF A NEW SALES QUOTA WHICH WILL REFLECT CONSUMPTION TRENDS. PRESENTLY, MANUFACTURERS MUST USE AT LEAST 57 AUSTRALIAN LEAF IN MANUFACTURED TOBACCO PRODUCTS TO ASSURE USAGE OF THE NATIONAL QUOTA.
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ACCORDING TO THE REFERENCED CABLE, IT IS FEARED THAT A COMPROMISE SOLUTION WILL LEAD TO A FURTHER INCREASE IN THE MIXING PERCENTAGE. A FURTHER MEETING OF THE AUSTRALIAN TOBACCO BOARD IS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 1978 AND A DECISION WILL HAVE TO BE REACHED BY MID-1978 BEFORE THE PLANTING OF THE 1978/79 CROP COMMENCES. THERE IS EXPECTED TO BE A STRONG REACTION BY U.S. PRODUCERS AND EXPORTERS TO ANY FURTHER INCREASE IN THE MINIMUM MIXING PERCENTAGE. THE U.S. EMBASSY IN CANBERRA HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO MAKE NEW REPRESENTATIONS TO APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA OFFICIALS DRAWING UPON THE POINTS IN REF C.

4. TECHNICAL CHANGES: THE FOLLOWING CORRECTIONS, WHICH CLARIFY OR CORRECT TERMINOLOGY AND WHICH DO NOT AMOUNT TO A NEW OR INCREASED REQUEST, SHOULD BE MADE IN THE U.S. REQUEST:

(A) ITEM 0705200 (DRIED BEANS AND PEAS): THE DESCRIPTION SHOULD READ "BEANS OTHER THAN OF THE SPECIES PHASEOLUS VULGARIS AND PEAS, PRICKED, SLIT OR SUBJECTED TO ANY SIMILAR PROCESS DESIGNED TO FACILITATE DEHYDRATION AND SUBSEQUENT HYDRATION."

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(B) ITEM 1105000 (FLOUR, MEAL AND FLAKES OF POTATO):
THE CURRENT DUTY SHOULD READ "50 " AND THE REQUESTED DUTY SHOULD READ "20 ."

(C) ITEM EX1602900 (PREPARED OR PRESERVED MEAT, NES):
THE EX-OUT SHOULD READ "EX: POULTRY MEAT OR OFFAL," THE CURRENT DUTY SHOULD READ "7.5 AND $0.08/KG" AND THE REQUESTED DUTY SHOULD READ "3 AND $0.032/KG."

(D) ITEM EX2006210 (FRUIT OTHERWISE PREPARED OR PRESERVED, ETC.): THE TARIFF NUMBER SHOULD READ "2006210" AND THE DESCRIPTION SHOULD READ "ALMONDS OTHERWISE PREPARED OR
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PRESERVED, WHETHER OR NOT CONTAINING ADDED SUGAR OR SPIRIT."

(E) ITEM 2401210 (UNMANUFACTURED TOBACCO, FOR MANUFACTURE OF CIGARETTES, ETC.): THE REQUESTED DUTY SHOULD READ "0.47/KG." VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMENDMENTS, TARIFF SCHEDULES, TRADE AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE057459
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: BHARPER:GD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780102-0200
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780397/aaaadeft.tel
Line Count: 142
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 60c032cc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AGRE
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 GENEVA 9638, 78 CANBERRA 8671, 78 STATE 10800
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3415735
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMENDMENTS TO AND CLARIFICATION OF U.S. MTN RE- QUESTS ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS: AUSTRALIA
TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, AU, AS
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/60c032cc-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014